Your hands-on, step-by-step guide to building connected, service-oriented applications. Teach yourself the essentials of Windows Communication Foundation (WCF) 4 -- one step at a time. With this practical, learn-by-doing tutorial, you get the clear guidance and hands-on examples you need to begin creating Web services for robust Windows-based business applications. Discover how to: Build and host SOAP and REST services Maintain service contracts and data contracts Control configuration and communications programmatically Implement message encryption, authentication, and authorization Manage identity with Windows CardSpace Begin working with Windows Workflow Foundation to create scalable and durable business services Implement service discovery and message routing Optimize performance with service throttling, encoding, and streaming Integrate WCF services with ASP.NET clients and enterprise services components Your Step by Step digital content includes: Practice exercises Downloadable code samples Fully searchable online edition of the book -- with unlimited access on the Web

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Customer Reviews
Book review - "Windows Communication Foundation 4 - Step by Step", by John Sharp
Hi, This book is about WCF (Windows Communication Foundation) which is Microsoft's API for building SOA (service oriented application) infrastructures. SOA is very important
because today's devices (especially tablets, smartphones, IPADs) all need to make HTTP calls to some URL addressable endpoint, whether it be SOAP based, REST based or just simple HTTP XML services. HTTP over TCP/IP is the universal transport mechanism for all these web-enabled devices. Lest we forget, SOA’s also can serve as the building blocks for calls to get data for websites, Silverlight or Flash based apps as well. I am very interested in SOA architectures and believe that they are very important to any organization’s IT department as a mechanism to eventually have “building blocks” of services which make the application of business logic or some type of workflow process easier to consistently apply this logic across the organization. It also allows organizations to more rapidly build applications because once you have an SOA architecture in place, these services can be called from any client-side environment such as a web page, mobile device, tablet or whatever else may come down the pike. Another key advantage is the fact that SOA’s usually use standardized data exchange formats such as XML or JSON so that different devices from different manufacturers (Android/iOS/Blackberry/Windows Phone) all can understand the data while abstracting away concepts such as operating system type or CPU architecture etc. In other words, SOA’s when correctly built are platform agnostic.

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